Technical Working Group supporting the implementation of Motion 45/2025 in relation to Intact Forest Landscapes

FSC has started the implementation of Motion 45/2025 "*Moving beyond fixed thresholds to outcome-based conservation for Intact Forest Landscapes*", adopted at the 2025 General Assembly. This change reflects an important step in strengthening FSC's approach to protecting and managing Intact Forest Landscapes (IFLs), which are critical for biodiversity, climate regulation, and the rights and livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

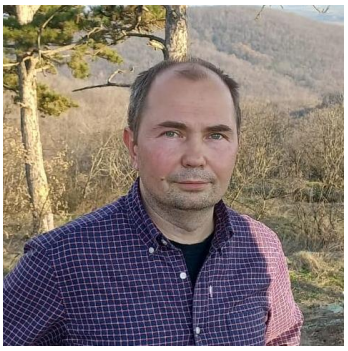
To initiate the implementation of this motion, FSC is developing a set of generic indicators for enhanced High Conservation Value (HCV 2) management and monitoring in IFLs. These indicators aim to strengthen how forest integrity is maintained over time through improved management and monitoring practices and will be introduced firstly via Advice Note (now under consultation in the Consultation Platform).

In the longer term, the requirements introduced via the Advice Note(s) will be incorporated into the International Generic Indicators (IGI) as part of the ongoing revision of the Principles, Criteria and International Generic Indicators (PCI, FSC-STD-60-004 V3). These requirements will subsequently be integrated into Forest Stewardship Standards (FSS) following the approval of the updated FSC Principles and Criteria.

To support the implementation of the motion, a **Technical Working Group (TWG)** was established, composed of six members and one expert. The members were selected considering their practical experience and knowledge in forest management and monitoring related to HCV and IFLs, as well as development of standards or expertise in Indigenous Peoples' rights. The members have supported the development of the Advice Note on enhanced indicators for management in HCV 2 and monitoring in IFLs.

The TWG members are: Andrei Shchegolev, Caroline Duhesme, Chris Wedeles, Hector Tuy, Julia Young, Victor Melo Lima. Additionally, there is one expert on the TWG: Joeri Zwerts[1]. See below for a short bio to find out more about each of them.

[1] Members have 'voting rights' as they can recommend (endorse), reject of abstain on the draft submitted for approval. Experts do not have voting rights. Their role is to provide inputs on the content of specific requirements or advice on specific issues. Source: Adapted from FSC-PRO-01-001.

Andrei Shchegelov 	Andrei Shchegolev is a Senior Environmental Conservation Program Manager with over 20 years of experience in voluntary forest certification and responsible forest management, most of which was spent as a Forest Conservation & Sustainability Consultant. He holds an M.S. in Environmental Conservation from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Andrei has worked extensively with FSC National Standard development processes, including pioneering the integration of IFL conservation into Russia's FSC National Standard, and has been a member of the FSC International Environmental Chamber South since 2017.
Caroline Duhesme 	Caroline Duhesme is a forestry engineer specialized in sustainable natural forest management and the tropical timber sector, with over 20 years of experience in the Congo Basin. An FSC Lead Auditor (FM and CoC) since 2004, she has conducted more than 100 audits globally across Africa, Asia, and Europe. She is currently Director of Innovation and Strategy at ATIBT, where she works on certification, forest governance, and sustainable timber market development.
Chris Wedeles 	Chris is a forest ecologist and has been involved with FSC in Canada for more than 20 years. He has worked as a consultant on ecological topics, as a Standard writer, and as an auditor. He presently represents the Environmental chamber on FSC Canada's Standard Development Group. Chris has also participated in several FSC-IC Technical Working Groups, including those for the 'original' IFL Working Group – Motion 65, EUDR Alignment, and revising the Development and Revision of Country Requirements.
Héctor Tuy 	Héctor Tuy is a Guatemalan senior international development consultant with over 30 years of field grounded experience in forest governance, climate resilient development, Indigenous Peoples' rights, and monitoring and evaluation. Holding advanced degrees in forestry and ecological economics, he currently serves on FSC International's Technical Working Group on Intact Forest Landscapes and is fluent in Spanish, English, German, and Kaqchikel.

Julia Young 	Julia has extensive experience in natural resources management, including exploration geology and mining, and moved into international environmental law and policy with a particular focus on governance and voluntary stewardship of the environment. She led work on global forest management and trade (GFTN) in the UK with WWF from 2007, including forest certification, with diverse businesses, civil society, and government actors, before leading global forest sector strategy and engagement for the WWF network until mid-2022. She is currently Director of Policy and Standards at the HCV Network. Julia has lived and worked long-term in southern Africa, the UK, and now Sweden.
Victor Melo Lima 	Victor Melo Lima is a forest engineer and geoprocessing specialist, currently Certification Coordinator at Neocert and FSC Lead Auditor, based in Acre, Brazil. He has over 18 years of experience in sustainable forest management in the Amazon and more than 8 years working with FSC certification of natural forests. He previously served as a Protected Areas manager, working closely with local communities, and as an environmental and geoprocessing analyst within governmental institutions.
Joeri Zwerts (Expert) 	Joeri Zwerts, the main proposer of Motion 45/202 5, is an Assistant Professor at Utrecht University specializing in wildlife conservation in tropical forest landscapes where agrocommodities, such as timber and palm oil, are produced. His work also focuses on the advancement of wildlife monitoring methods, using acoustic recordings and thermal drones. Central themes in his research are responsible forest management, landscape connectivity and human wildlife conflict. His goal is to develop evidence-based strategies that promote sustainable practices that benefit both wildlife and human well-being, to address the challenge of combining growing resource needs with nature conservation.